NUMB. I.

The GUARDIAN.

——*Ille quem requiris.* Mart.

To be Continued Every Day

Thurſday, March 12. 1713.

THERE is no Paſſion ſo univerſal, however diverſified or diſguiſed under different Forms and Appearances, as the Vanity of being known to the reſt of Mankind, and communicating a Man's Parts, Virtues or Qualifications to the World; this is ſo ſtrong upon Men of great Genius, that they have a reſtleſs Fondneſs for ſatisfying the World in the Miſtakes they might poſſibly be under, with relation even to their Phyſiognomy. Mr. *Airs*, that excellent Penman, has taken care to affix his own Image oppoſite to the Title Page of his Learned Treatiſe, wherein he inſtructs the Youth of this Nation to arrive at a flouriſhing Hand. The Author of *the Key to Intereſt, both Simple and Compound, containing Practical Rules plainly expreſſed in Words at length for all Rates of Intereſt, and Times of Payment, for what time ſoever*, makes up to us the Misfortune of his living at *Cheſter*, by following the Example of the abovementioned *Airs*, and coming up to Town, overagainſt his Title Page in a very becoming Periwig, and a flowing Robe or Mantle, incloſed in a Circle of Foliages; below his Portraiture, for our farther Satisfaction, as to the Age of that uſeful Writer, is ſubſcribed *Johannes Ward de Civitut. Ceſtriæ, Ætat. ſuæ* 58. *An. Dom.* 1706. The ſerene Aſpect of theſe Writers, join'd with the great Encouragement I obſerve is given to another, or, what is indeed to be ſuſpected, in which he indulges himſelf, confirmed me in the Notion I have of the prevalence of Ambition this way. The Author whom I hint at ſhall be nameleſs, but his Countenance is communicated to the Publick in ſeveral Views and Aſpects drawn by the moſt eminent Painters, and forwarded by Engravers, Artiſts by way of Merſotinto, Etchers, and the like. There was, I remember, ſome Years ago one *John Gale*, a Fellow that play'd upon a Pipe, and diverted the Multitude by Dancing in a Ring they made about him, whoſe Face became generally known, and the Artiſts employ'd their Skill in delineating his Features, becauſe every Man was judge of the Similitude of them. There is little elſe than what this *John Gale* arriv'd at in the Advantages Men enjoy from common Fame, yet do I fear it has always a Part in moving us to exert our ſelves in ſuch things, as ought to derive their beginnings from nobler Conſiderations: But I think it is no great matter to the Publick what is the Incentive which makes Men beſtow time in their Service, provided there be any thing uſeful in what they produce; I ſhall proceed therefore to give an Account of my intended Labours, not without ſome hope of having my Vanity, at the end of them, indulged in the Sort abovementioned.

I ſhould not have aſſumed the Title of *Guardian*, had I not maturely conſidered, that the Qualities neceſſary for doing the Duties of that Character, proceed from the Integrity of the Mind more than the Excellence of the Underſtanding: The former of theſe Qualifications it is in the Power of every Man to arrive at; and the more he endeavours that Way, the leſs will he want the Advantages of the latter; to be Faithful, to be Honeſt, to be Juſt, is what you will demand in the Choice of your Guardian; or if you find added to this, that he is Pleaſant, Ingenious, and Agreeable, there will overflow Satisfactions which make for the Ornament, if not ſo immediately to the Uſe, of your Life. As to the Diverting Part of this Paper, by what Aſſiſtance I ſhall be capacitated for that, as well as what Proofs I have given of my Behaviour as to Integrity in former Life, will appear from my Hiſtory to be delivered in enſuing Diſcourſes. The main Purpoſe of the Work ſhall be to protect the Modeſt, the Induſtrious, to celebrate the Wiſe, the Valiant, to encourage the Good, the Pious, to confront the Impudent, the Idle, to contemn the Vain, the Cowardly, and to diſappoint the Wicked and Prophane. This Work cannot be carried on but by preſerving a ſtrict Regard, not only to the Duties but Civilities of Life, with the utmoſt Impartiality towards Things and Perſons. The unjuſt Application of the Advan-

(Price Two Pence.)